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WARTIME WORK OF STATE EXTENSION SERVICES  
(Digested From Reports of State Extension Directors)

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Summary No. 11

May 23, 1942

ARIZONA (April 15).--Home demonstration agents conducting canning demonstrations in all counties. Cooperating with county war boards in survey of fruit jars, lids, pressure cookers, etc., needed for canning in rural communities during summer. Emphasizing live-at-home program; clothing care and repair. Demonstrations given in use of emergency rations in case of air raid or attack in rural communities located near Army camps or factories.

Victory Garden program under way. Mimeographed circular prepared stressing importance of home food production and containing information on kinds of vegetables, time of planting, and time of harvest, for each county.

Educational program conducted on planting SXP cotton. Seed stocks available for planting 30,000 to 50,000 acres. Series of charts to be published to keep growers secure maximum production.

Meetings conducted stressing value of plant disease and insect control.

Bulk grain storage facilities provided in number of counties. Some farmers providing own storage and several feed companies building larger granaries. Mimeographed circular prepared and distributed giving needed information in solving bulk storage problems.

In cooperation with county war boards survey made of farm machinery needs during growing season. Machinery check list sent all farmers to aid them in checking repair needs. Educational meetings on repair and maintenance held.

Collection scrap iron and other waste materials in progress all counties. 4-H Clubs taking lead.

4-H Club Victory campaign includes planting more food and fiber, with special stress on Victory Gardens.

CONNECTICUT (May 15).--Quick communication system for reaching farm families throughout State by telephone or personal contact being established by vote of USDA War Board, with existing personnel of various agencies connected with agricultural war effort forming nucleus of system. Organization each county will be left to county war board.

Fifty farmers in town of Milford formed committee to secure necessary labor for setting several thousand roots on seed-producing farms. Needs estimated and matter taken up with school superintendent, who released 100 boys from school for 2 weeks to do the work. For summer, the committee has rented a camp, and in cooperation with extension, State labor committee, and Hotchkiss School, will recruit boys from preparatory and high schools to be available for hire as laborers on farms. Boys will live at camp and recreational facilities will be provided.

NYA and University of Connecticut have agreed to sponsor training course for boys as farm hands on dairy and poultry farms. Plan is to train 20 boys at a time, giving each class 1 month of work. Approximately three-fourths of time will be devoted to work experience supervised by university farm employees, and one-fourth to classroom instruction. U. S. Employment Service will place graduates.

Plans started to employ a number of conscientious objectors from camps in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania as full-time hands on dairy farms in Hartford County. Selective Service representatives, USDA War Board, Extension, and U. S. Employment Service cooperating.

KANSAS (May 15).--Emergency nutritionists have completed leader-training meetings on food preservation in 82 communities of 23 counties. Six concise leaflets on "Food for Health" prepared and distributed at community meetings. Three leaflets on sugar situation prepared. "Consumer Knowledge Builds Defense," 14-page leaflet, prepared especially for study groups. "Victory Canning News," 5-minute radio talk, given over radio each day.

In beef cattle program stress placed on safe, economical production. 21,000, or 65 percent of all beef producers, cooperating, affecting approximately 2,000,000 beef cattle. Farmers encouraged to organize cooperative livestock pools to facilitate marketing and provide saving in transportation.

Assistance being given in educational campaign on wheat marketing quotas. Indications State will meet 1943 goals. Farmers urged to repair buildings, utilize vacant garages, sheds, houses, other buildings for storing this year's wheat crop.

Feed requirement standard sent each county for use in determining production goals. Special committee making study State 1943 production goals, involving analysis of 10 representative counties. Intensive planning programs being written for 15 counties.

Farm labor situation discussed in each county. Farm labor subcommittees organized in all but 2 counties, and neighborhood labor representatives set up 45 counties.



KENTUCKY (May 15).--In Victory leadership program over 4,000 new leaders signed up, with indications that total number, including project leaders, will be near 40,000. Of these 14,868 are women.

Six district conferences of farm women, covering entire State, held April 28 - May 4, to present plans of homemakers for civic activities, work through discussion groups, morale-building activities. Speeches included "Shoulder to Shoulder," "Calling All Homemakers," "Individual Responsibility for Total Victory." Over 2,500 farm women from 60 counties attended.

All counties reached with food preservation information. Canning, drying, storing vegetables and fruits will be undertaken on large scale. All interested groups invited to participate, including FSA, WPA, Vocational Agriculture, PTA, local civic groups. County nutrition committees active. Agents 58 counties assisted in 514 live-at-home meetings attended by representatives 20,000 families. To date 13,302 farm families in 58 counties signed pledges to produce at least 75 percent of their food at home.

Dates set for 12 district conferences to explain price-ceiling program to all interested agencies.

In seed-saving program excellent use being made of portable thresher developed by TVA. In Johnson County 5 farmers kept machine busy 6 weeks threshing soybeans, lespedeza, redtop, timothy, and other crops from old haystacks or barn lofts. About 35,000 acres hemp to be grown for seed this year.

4-H Club Mobilization Week increased club enrollment 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  percent over last year. In Victory Garden program 4-H members will increase vegetable growing by 300 to 400 percent. 4-H Clubs in 46 counties report collecting 3,589,274 pounds scrap metal, 72,403 pounds rubber, 4,283,442 pounds paper, 31,027 pounds rags.

38 counties report homemakers' club salvage committees.

LOUISIANA (April).--3,058 meetings held on food production with 110,948 attending. Increased hybrid corn program, new developments in seed rice, and comprehensive project in winter legume work started. In one parish 65 upland farms have been rejuvenated through improved pasture and brought back to revenue production in dairy cattle program. Plans being made for delivering pasteurized milk to Army.

Improving cattle herds by increasing weight through crop feeding, better pastures, more adequate summer feeding. Aim is to redistribute and give better care to cattle in State rather than increase number. In 4-H calf work, attempt made to increase number calves only on farms where most of feed is home grown. Definite program to increase quality of lambs and wool through native sheep.

Establishment egg-drying plant has provided outlet for product small farmers northern part of State. Farmers being taught to take better care of poultry and eggs to improve quality. Improvement of poultry in State one of outstanding developments in food-production campaign. Egg income of farmers increased \$50,000 a month during March and April.

All farmers have made necessary repairs of machinery and reconditioned old equipment. Scrap-iron collections being made at schools in many parishes. Post-war plans under way to prepare for farm building needs, as well as parks and public structures to provide employment following war.

Special program undertaken to assist agents in training leaders in forest fire prevention. Program will be furthered through farm bureau organization in cooperation with war boards.

NEBRASKA (May 15).---In finishing up signing Victory garden pledges counties have made maps showing how completely work has been done and areas yet to be canvassed. Reports to date indicate 85,000 pledges signed. Western part of State about ready to plant; eastern part already using early gardens.

Pasture-forage-livestock sign-up closed May 1, with total 5,558 signers who will compete for recognition in fall. Others may still enter during planting season but cannot compete.

In women's project meetings garden work, canning, drying, and brining are emphasized. County achievement days scheduled for each county. Reupholstering and sewing-machine clinics being held.

Extension boards being reorganized to include leaders from every school district. This will furnish key persons in each community to serve in any emergency call.

Leoti sorghum and "waxy" type corn will be grown by farmers in number of counties. These two crops have been found to contain proper quality starch for manufacture of tapioca, supply of which has been cut off by war.

4-H Clubs have had large increase in enrollment in past 2 weeks. 1,964 clubs organized with 8,343 boys and 7,309 girls already at work on projects, with special emphasis on beef, swine, dairy, garden, cooking, canning, and clothing.

Emergency rural fire-control project plans drawn up. Provide for rural fire wardens in each school district or similar political division who will be given training in prevention and extinction of fires; precautions to be taken in elimination of fire hazards on farms, fields, and woodlands; first aid in case of fire injury.

PUERTO RICO (May 1).---Food price survey completed with reports from 1,113 farmers on 17 commodities.

Thirteen nutrition groups organized by home demonstration agents. 14 feeding groups for undernourished children organized with 857 children enrolled. All children given physical examination at rural health units of Department of Health. 200 drinking cups for this project made from tin cans.

Five home demonstration agents received Red Cross certificates as first-aid instructors. Five first-aid groups organized with 96 women enrolled. Plans made to establish 5 community emergency rooms.



Increasing vegetables, minor crops, meat, poultry and dairy products stressed through press, radio, publications, and at all public meetings.

As result of 4-H Mobilization Week, club enrollment increased from 8,184 to 16,878. During week 4-H Club rallies, parades, exhibits held and publicity given through radio and press.

SOUTH CAROLINA (May 16).--Organization for wartime activities continues with following results: 1,204 voluntary community committees composed of 5,467 active farm and home leaders 46 counties; 626 leader-training meetings held 44 counties, attendance 4,868; 42 counties report 777 community meetings to which all farm people invited, attended by 31,899. Home demonstration workers in 45 counties report 2,352 home demonstration club meetings on Better Farm Living and Food-for-Victory program, attended by 35,483 farm women. Method demonstrations of recommended farm and home practices given 46 counties at 2,919 meetings before total of 29,708 farm people.

In 38 counties lists of groups of farm families having special problems have been placed in hands of voluntary leaders through whom special educational programs will be channeled to reach such families individually and assist them in overcoming deficits in food and feed production, obtain needed materials, and reach production goals. In 8 other counties similar assistance will be given through general educational programs directed through voluntary community leaders.

In Victory Garden program 75,561 information cards outlining practices for home garden distributed. Program also stressed through publicity and radio talks. Cooperating with civic clubs in Victory Garden contests. Assisting WPA in establishing community and school lunch gardens.

Estimated farmers in 43 counties will plant 91,090 acres peanuts for oil in 1942. "Peanuts for Victory" circular distributed - 19,155 copies.

In 41 counties 10,697 farm families enrolled in 1942 Seventy-Five Percent Food and Feed Production Program.

Cooperative poultry sales arranged through which farmers sold 463,035 pounds poultry for \$78,070. In 27 counties 49 local groups farmers organized to market eggs through AMA marketing centers; total 2,887 cases marketed. Sixty groups farmers 10 counties assisted in organizing for marketing milk and cream. Pastures and annual grazing crops urged in connection increased dairy production. In hog production farmers being assisted in obtaining breeding stock. Information given on hog production, marketing, hog houses and equipment, etc.

12,951 4-H Club members enrolled in Food-for-Victory Program.

Average 136 tons scrap iron per county collected through groups farm people.

Due to shortage of poison for boll-weevil control, cotton-stalk destruction recommended as a war measure. Farmers cooperating; stalks destroyed on approximately 50 percent cotton acreage.

SOUTH DAKOTA (May 1).--Plan for setting up neighborhood leader organization in each county under way. All members State extension staff will assist with organization work during May.

1943 production estimate meetings will be completed every county by May 15. Each county agent responsible for getting county report completed.

57 counties now have county nutrition committees with organized nutrition programs. Large number subcommittees working on various phases program through schools, extension groups, Red Cross, federated clubs, PTA, and other organizations. Refresher schools for those holding B. S. in home economics held in four towns, with three more planned. Joint training schools for 4-H home life leaders and extension project leaders conducted by home management specialist in nonagent counties.

Truck manned by volunteer workers will stop at door of every rural and urban home in 44 of 69 counties for collection scrap metal and old rubber, under plan launched by county war boards. Campaign promises to complete scrap metal collection in these counties.

Program of fire prevention planned by committee State workers. Printed circular covering subject being prepared. This will be one of first subjects presented to neighborhood leader group on State-wide basis.

2,000 pledge cards received from 4-H Club members agreeing to carry out one or more special victory jobs in addition to regular projects. Fire-prevention leaflet, outlining special 4-H project, being prepared for distribution to 4-H members.